

Phase II and Phase III Project Cover Sheet

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REPORT INFORMATION:

1985 Sonderman, R.C.
Archeological Test Excavations at Piper Farm House (18WA321), Antietam National Battlefield.
Submitted to the Office of Archeology, Maryland Historical Trust

Library ID No: 00006321 Catalog/Shelving ID: WA 22

Research Firm/Institution:

National Capital Team, National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington DC 20242

Sites examined:

18WA321

Project Details:

Phase I	Project Justification:
Phase II <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In the winter of 1984-1985, an archeological testing program was undertaken in the north and east yard of the Piper Farm House (18WA321), Antietam National Battlefield. The testing program was conducted to comply with Section 106 of the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and Executive Order 1150, in an effort to determine if cultural resources would be adversely impacted by proposed restoration of the Piper Farm House.
Phase III	

Project Objectives:
-Determine the nature, distribution and density of cultural resources within the proposed area of disturbance.
-Interpret their potential historic significance.

Research Potential:

The archeological investigations indicate that no archeological resources predating the very late 19th century were destroyed by the rehabilitation of the Piper Farm House (18WA321). Furthermore, due to the proximity of the local bedrock to the ground surface, the potential for significant intact features and artifact deposits is quite limited.

REPORT INFORMATION:

1995 Manning-Sterling, E.H., M.A. Brown, and T.H. Klien
Progress Report, First Phase of Archeological Investigations, West Woods, Antietam National Battlefield, Sharpsburg, Maryland.
Submitted to the National Capital Area, National Park Service

Library ID No: 00006370 Catalog/Shelving ID: WA 75

Research Firm/Institution:

URS Greiner, Inc.
561 Cedar Lane
Florence, NJ 08518

Sites examined:

18WA456 18WA461

Project Details:

Phase I	Project Justification:
Phase II <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A System-wide Archeological Inventory Program (SAIP) was created by the National Park Service as a result of servicewide-material weaknesses in the Park Archeology Program. In particular, there was a concern that significant archeological sites were being destroyed or damaged by operations, development, visitor use, vandalism, and other activities within the parks. To address these weaknesses, the main goal of the SAIP is to conduct a systematic, scientific inventory of archeological resources within the parks, document these resources, and evaluate them in terms of their eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. As part of the SAIP, a program was developed for the Antietam National Battlefield. This program involves the investigation of different portions of the park in phases. This report describes the first phase of work, which focused on the West Woods area, a portion of the battlefield where historic woodlot restoration is taking place to more accurately reflect the landscape of 1862. The West Woods project served as a "test case" for the following phases of the SAIP survey. This work involved metal detector survey, systematic shovel testing and surface collecting, and controlled excavation in the area of the Locher/Poffenberger Farmstead.
Phase III	

Project Objectives:
-Examine numerous historic documents to determine their accessibility and potential information yield.
-Test the archeological field methods to be employed during subsequent phases of the SAIP survey, primarily the use of metal detectors vs. systematic shovel testing.
-Refine research topics pertinent to the battlefield which can likely be addressed using the archeological and historical data recovered.
-Determine the viability of using archeological data for public interpretation of the park's archeological resources.

Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18WA456 & 18WA461.

REPORT INFORMATION:

1996 Manning-Sterling, E.H. and B.B. Sterling
Battlefield and Farmstead; the West Woods Survey, Antietam.
Submitted to the Society for Historical Archaeology
Library ID No: 00006368 Catalog/Shelving ID: WA 73

Research Firm/Institution:

URS Greiner, Inc.
561 Cedar Lane
Florence, NJ 08518

Sites examined:

18WA456 18WA461

Project Details:

Phase I ☒ Project Justification:
Phase II ☒ This source is a paper presented to the Society for Historical
Phase III Archaeology in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1996. It provides a brief
synopsis of the findings reported during the West Woods surveys
that were part of the Antietam National Battlefield SAIP surveys.

Project Objectives:
-Report the findings from the West Woods SAIP surveys.

Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18WA456 & 18WA461.

REPORT INFORMATION:

1997 Manning-Sterling, E. and B.B. Sterling
Management Summary; Part I and Part II of the Third Phase of Archeological Investigations
of the North Woods, Antietam National Battlefield, Sharpsburg, Maryland.
Submitted to the National Capital Area, National Park Service
Library ID No: 97000503 Catalog/Shelving ID: WA 98

Research Firm/Institution:

URS Greiner, Inc.
561 Cedar Lane
Florence, NJ 08518

Sites examined:

18WA456 18WA466

Project Details:

Phase I ☒ Project Justification:
Phase II ☒ A System-wide Archeological Inventory Program (SAIP) was
Phase III created by the National Park Service as a result of servicewide-
material weaknesses in the Park Archeology Program. In
particular, there was a concern that significant archeological sites
were being destroyed or damaged by operations, development,
visitor use, vandalism, and other activities within the parks. To
address these weaknesses, the main goal of the SAIP is to
conduct a systematic, scientific inventory of archeological
resources within the parks, document these resources, and
evaluate them in terms of their eligibility for listing in the National
Register of Historic Places. As part of the SAIP, a program was
developed for the Antietam National Battlefield. This program
involves the investigation of different portions of the park in
phases. This report presents the results of the historic research
and archeological study of the North Woods, comprising the third
phase of investigations at the Antietam National Battlefield. This
work involved metal detector survey, judgemental and systematic
shovel testing, and limited excavation in an area where a potential
feature was detected.

Project Objectives:
-Conduct systematic metal detector surveys which would result in
a sample of at least 25% of the North Woods.
-Excavate all metal detector anomalies in the survey area.
-Perform judgemental shovel testing and/or test unit excavation in
areas of interest identified in the field.
-Perform systematic shovel testing in areas of the survey area
where metal detector survey is impractical.

Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18WA456 and 18WA466.

REPORT INFORMATION:

Research Firm/Institution:

1998 URS Greiner, Inc.
Management Summary; Archeological Investigations at Antietam National Battlefield,
Sharpsburg, Maryland.
Submitted to the National Capital Area, National Park Service

Library ID No: 97000505 Catalog/Shelving ID: WA 96

URS Greiner, Inc.
561 Cedar Lane
Florence, NJ 08518

Sites examined:

18WA321 18WA450 18WA456

Project Details:

Phase I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project Justification:
Phase II	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A System-wide Archeological Inventory Program (SAIP) was created by the National Park Service as a result of servicewide-material weaknesses in the Park Archeology Program. In particular, there was a concern that significant archeological sites were being destroyed or damaged by operations, development, visitor use, vandalism, and other activities within the parks. To address these weaknesses, the main goal of the SAIP is to conduct a systematic, scientific inventory of archeological resources within the parks, document these resources, and evaluate them in terms of their eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. As part of the SAIP, a program was developed for the Antietam National Battlefield. This program involves the investigation of different portions of the park in phases. This report presents the results of the historic research and the archeological study during the fourth phase of investigation. This work involved both metal detector survey and controlled excavation in areas where planned improvements or interpretive features might impact archeological deposits.
Phase III		

Project Objectives:
-Conduct systematic metal detector surveys which would result in a sample of at least 25% of any identified survey areas within the battlefield.
-Excavate all metal detector anomalies in an identified survey area.
-Perform test excavations to sample for intact deposits and features in any area slated for significant development within any identified survey area within the battlefield.
-Perform test excavations to sample for intact deposits and features in any other areas identified by park staff as having a high probability of yielding such deposits.

Research Potential:

See above for remaining research questions at 18WA321.

See below for remaining research questions at 18WA450 and 18WA456.

REPORT INFORMATION:

2000 Sterling, B.B. and E.H. Manning-Sterling
Antietam, Battle on an Agrarian Landscape: a Study in Archeology.
Submitted to the National Capital Area, National Park Service

Library ID No: 97000504 Catalog/Shelving ID: WA 97

Research Firm/Institution:

URS Greiner, Inc.
561 Cedar Lane
Florence, NJ 08518

Sites examined:

18WA450 18WA456 18WA461 18WA466 18WA482 18WA483 18WA484

18WA485 18WA505 Additional sites as listed above:
18WA321

Project Details:

Phase I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project Justification:
Phase II	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A System-wide Archeological Inventory Program (SAIP) was created by the National Park Service as a result of servicewide-material weaknesses in the Park Archeology Program. In particular, there was a concern that significant archeological sites were being destroyed or damaged by operations, development, visitor use, vandalism, and other activities within the parks. To address these weaknesses, the main goal of the SAIP is to conduct a systematic, scientific inventory of archeological resources within the parks, document these resources, and evaluate them in terms of their eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. As part of the SAIP, a program was developed for the Antietam National Battlefield. This program involves the investigation of different portions of the park in phases. This report is a synthesis of the four year (four phase) archeological investigation at Antietam National Battlefield. This work involved metal detector survey, systematic shovel testing and surface collecting, and controlled excavation in areas where planned improvements or interpretive features might impact archeological deposits.
Phase III		

Project Objectives:
-Determine the functional attributes and activities that can be discerned from prehistoric sites within the Battlefield boundaries.
-Determine the types of prehistoric sites within the Battlefield boundaries (resource procurement, lithic reduction, campsite) and the temporal and cultural periods represented.
-Assess how such prehistoric sites correspond to the settlement patterns in the region, and within the Hagerstown Valley.
-Determine if the fence lines and edges of woods, as noted on historic maps and denoted by park signs, are accurately located on the landscape.
-Locate any evidence of camps associated with pre-battle activities and any evidence of troop movements that can be identified in the archeological record.
-Locate any archeological remains present that can be used to

examine field medical practices and burial activities.

-Determine (to the extent possible) the physical layout of farmsteads in the Antietam Valley during the 18th and 19th centuries and how they changed over time.

-Determine the consumption patterns of these farm households and their degree of participation in the local, regional, and national market economy. Also assess how these patterns changed over time.

-Determine if the structural changes of farms, and consumer behavior patterns can be linked to events and economic processes that occurred within the area, including 1) the battle itself; 2) the attention placed upon the area because of the battle; 3) the opening of the C&O Canal and the local railroads; 4) changes in the production, marketing, and transportation of goods into and out of the rural countryside; and 5) the structure of the farm households.

Research Potential:

See above for remaining research questions at 18WA321.

See below for remaining research questions at 18WA450 and 18WA456.

Excavations at 18WA461 reveal that the Locher/Poffenberger site is unique, as it appears to be relatively intact even though it is located within the West Woods, which has been heavily pothunted since the battle. In addition, the deposits at the site are not limited to its role in the battle, but extend to its use by tenant farmers from the time of its construction early in the 19th century, to its abandonment around 1900. The research potential of this farmstead is substantial.

Excavations at 18WA466 produced a relatively sparse domestic assemblage, resulting in a limited interpretive value. The yard scatter associated with the Miller cabin/tenant house was limited in density, depth, and distribution across the landscape. Given the historically documented shortness of the occupation at 18WA466, little additional information can be obtained through additional excavations.

Sites 18WA482, 18WA483, 18WA484, and 18WA485 were the prehistoric finds mentioned in the synopsis report for 18WA456. All are either very light lithic scatters or isolated finds and are not considered significant resources.

See below for remaining research questions at 18WA505.

REPORT INFORMATION:

2002 Orrence, K.L. and S.R. Potter
106 Compliance and Monitoring at the Mumma House, Antietam National Battlefield
(18WA450).
Submitted to the Antietam National Battlefield

Library ID No: 97001310 Catalog/Shelving ID: WA 112

Research Firm/Institution:

National Capital Team, National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington DC 20242

Sites examined:

18WA450

Project Details:

Project Justification:	
Phase I	Archeological testing was conducted to provide clearance for the installation of a waterline to the Mumma House. Additional archeological monitoring was conducted following the discovery by NPS archeologists that a construction crew inside the Mumma House was hand-excavating a trench for the installation of ductwork, impacting cultural resources, and uncovering numerous historic artifacts.
Phase II	
Phase III	

Project Objectives:
-Maintain compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

Research Potential:

A considerable amount of testing has been conducted at 18WA450, but future archeological investigations, coupled with additional historic research may help answer questions on farm layout and evolution, consumer trade networks, and historic artifact disposal practices. Locating the early Orndorff house site may be a future archeological research goal, which may help establish the historic farm layout and provide greater details about the life of the early occupants of the farm. Historical research into the local potters who produced redwares could aid our understanding of trade networks and how the Orndorff and Mumma families interacted with the local community. Recent investigations at the Locher/Poffenberger Farmstead, similar to the Mumma site, identified a large yard midden containing a dense concentration of artifacts. Future research may reveal if this artifact disposal practice is common to the area or a specific ethnic group.

REPORT INFORMATION:

2005 Bedell, J.

Research Firm/Institution:

the Louis Berger Group, Inc.

Library ID No: 95000853 Catalog/Shelving ID: WA 144

Sites examined:

18WA505

Project Details:

Phase I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project Justification:
Phase II	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This report describes archeological testing conducted in 2004 at the D.R. Miller Farm (18WA505) in the Antietam National Battlefield Park. The farmhouse, built around 1800, was standing during the 1862 battle, just north of what has come to be known as the "Bloody Cornfield". At the time, the National Park Service (NPS) was undertaking a project to rehabilitate the D.R. Miller farmhouse. This project entailed restoring the exterior and portions of the interior to its Civil War-era appearance and rehabilitating the building to allow for public access for possible educational and interpretive programs. The rehabilitation would involve the upgrading of electric and communication lines, installation of an air handler system, and replacement of the existing septic system. In accordance with federal regulations on NPS properties, archeological survey was carried out in the impact areas for the new utility lines, the septic tank, and the drainfield, and testing occurred around the house foundations to determine if significant archeological deposits were present.
Phase III		

Project Objectives:
-Add to the basic understanding of the fighting at the D.R. Miller Farm in 1862.
-Assist in reconstructing the landscape and exterior appearance of the D.R. Miller Farm as it was in the 19th century.
-Gain a better understanding of life in the Antietam area in historic and prehistoric times.

Research Potential:

The 2004 research at 18WA505 revealed at least one area with intact deposits. In an area northeast of the farm house, an intact feature was encountered which preserves a record of domestic life on the site before the Civil War. In addition, a buried sheet midden deposit related to the 19th century occupation (but also containing more recent materials) was noted between the feature and the farmhouse. This material could help with understanding and interpreting life in the Antietam area in the 19th century. The site should be considered a significant archeological resource.

REPORT INFORMATION:

2007 Gibb, J.G. and S. Michailof
Phase II Archeological Site Examination of Portions of Antietam National Battlefield, Sharpsburg, Washington County, Maryland.
Submitted to the Federal Highway Administration

Library ID No: 97003137 Catalog/Shelving ID: WA 138

Research Firm/Institution:

Straughan Environmental Services, Inc.
9135 Guilford Road, Suite 100
Columbia, MD 21046

Sites examined:

18WA456

Project Details:

Phase I		Project Justification:
Phase II	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In the fall of 2006 and winter of 2007, Phase II testing was carried out in a portion of the Antietam National Battlefield where the proposed expansion of an existing parking lot in front of the park Visitors' Center would impact the battlefield archeological deposits. Infrastructure improvements were also planned which would improve roadways, replace and rehabilitate culverts, and grade areas adjacent to the roads to improve drainage.
Phase III		

Project Objectives:
-Identify and delineate archeological resources within specific portions of the battlefield that might be adversely affected by the proposed park improvements.
-Evaluate the historical significance of those identified resources.
-Determine the horizontal and vertical limits of that portion of the site located in front of the Visitors' Center.

Research Potential:

The four-year SAIP survey in Antietam National Battlefield (18WA456) provided an excellent opportunity to investigate and test various archeological field methods designed to identify and interpret the archeological record of a Civil War conflict. The results of this methodological testing can and should be applied to future work at the battlefield, and to archeological investigations of other Civil War sites, especially those that are not as well documented as Antietam. Specifically, the synopsis of the four-year SAIP survey (97000504), as well as the most recent report on Phase II testing at the site (97003137) should be consulted before any additional construction or research projects are carried out at Antietam. As the park has an extensive General Management Plan in place, it is likely that research will be closely guided by the NPS.